

What is claimed is:

1. A method of playing an electronic casino card game between a player and a dealer comprising the steps of:

- 5 (a) providing a video gambling machine including a visual display device, a player wagering device, at least one input selection device, a winnings payout device, and a central processing means interconnected to a power supply;
- (b) applying a wagering credit to the video gambling machine using the player wagering device;
- 10 (c) placing a contract wager using an input selection device to participate in the card game;
- (d) displaying a three card player hand face down and a three card primary dealer hand face down on the visual display device;
- (e) exposing one of the cards of the primary dealer hand on the visual display device;
- 15 (f) exposing the player hand on the visual display device to determine the point total thereof;
- (g) placing an additional wager using an input selection device to continue to participate in the card game;
- (h) exposing the remaining two cards of the primary dealer hand on the
20 visual display device;
- (i) determining the point total of the primary dealer hand;
- (j) resolving the contract wager and the additional wager by comparing the point total of the primary dealer hand to the point total of the player hand; and
- 25 (k) receiving a payout from the winning payout device if a given resolution is achieved in step (j).

2. The method defined in Claim 1 wherein said step (i) is performed by (1) resolving the contract wager and the additional wager in favor of the player when the point total of the primary dealer hand is less than the point total of the player hand, (2)

resolving the contract wager and the additional wager in favor of the dealer when the point total of the primary dealer hand is greater than the point total of the player hand, and (3) resolving the contract wager and the additional wager as a tie when the point total of the primary dealer hand is equal to the point total of the player hand,

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3. A method of playing an electronic casino card game between a player and a dealer comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a video gambling machine including a visual display device, a player wagering device, at least one input selection device, a winnings payout device,
10 and a central processing means interconnected to a power supply;

(b) applying a wagering credit to the video gambling machine using the player wagering device;

(c) placing a contract wager using an input selection device to participate in the card game;

15 (d) displaying a three card player hand face down and a three card primary dealer hand face down on the visual display device;

(e) exposing one of the cards of the primary dealer hand on the visual display device;

20 (f) exposing the player hand on the visual display device to determine the point total thereof;

(g) placing an additional wager using an input selection device to continue to participate in the card game;

(h) exposing the remaining two cards of the primary dealer hand on the visual display device;

25 (i) determining the point total of the primary dealer hand;

(j) replacing one of the cards in the primary dealer hand with one of the cards in the secondary dealer hand if the point total of the primary dealer hand is less than a predetermined minimum amount;

(k) resolving the contract wager and the additional wager by comparing the point total of the primary dealer hand to the point total of the player hand; and

(l) receiving a payout from the winning payout device if a given resolution is achieved in step (k).

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4. The method defined in Claim 3 wherein said step (j) is performed by replacing the card having the lowest point value in the primary dealer hand with one of the cards in the secondary dealer hand.

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5. The method defined in Claim 3 wherein said step (j) is performed by randomly selecting one of the cards in the secondary dealer hand and using the randomly selected card to replace one of the cards in the primary dealer hand.

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6. The method defined in Claim 5 wherein said step (j) is performed by designating the cards in the secondary dealer hand as first, second, and third playing cards, rolling a die having indicia provided thereon representing outcomes of either the first, second, or third playing cards, and selecting the first, second, or third playing card in the secondary dealer hand in accordance with the outcome of the roll of the die.

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7. The method defined in Claim 3 wherein said step (j) is performed by (1) resolving the contract wager and the additional wager in favor of the player when the point total of the primary dealer hand is less than the point total of the player hand, (2) resolving the contract wager and the additional wager in favor of the dealer when the point total of the primary dealer hand is greater than the point total of the player hand, and (3) resolving the contract wager and the additional wager as a tie when the point total of the primary dealer hand is equal to the point total of the player hand,

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8. A method of playing an electronic casino card game between a player and a dealer comprising the steps of:

- 5 (a) providing a video gambling machine including a visual display device, a player wagering device, at least one input selection device, a winnings payout device, and a central processing means interconnected to a power supply;
- (b) applying a wagering credit to the video gambling machine using the player wagering device;
- (c) placing a contract wager using an input selection device to participate in the card game;
- 10 (d) displaying a three card player hand face down and a three card primary dealer hand face down on the visual display device;
- (e) exposing one of the cards of the primary dealer hand on the visual display device;
- (f) exposing the player hand on the visual display device to determine the point total thereof;
- 15 (g) placing an additional wager using an input selection device to continue to participate in the card game;
- (h) exposing the remaining two cards of the primary dealer hand on the visual display device;
- 20 (i) determining the point total of the primary dealer hand;
- (j) replacing one of the cards in the primary dealer hand with one of the cards in the secondary dealer hand if the point total of the primary dealer hand is less than a predetermined minimum amount;
- (k) resolving the contract wager and the additional wager by comparing the point total of the primary dealer hand to the point total of the player hand; and
- 25 (l) resolving the bonus wager by comparing the point total of the player hand with a bonus pay table.

9. The method defined in Claim 8 wherein said step (j) is performed by replacing the card having the lowest point value in the primary dealer hand with one of the cards in the secondary dealer hand.

5 10. The method defined in Claim 8 wherein said step (j) is performed by randomly selecting one of the cards in the secondary dealer hand and using the randomly selected card to replace one of the cards in the primary dealer hand.

10 11. The method defined in Claim 10 wherein said step (j) is performed by designating the cards in the secondary dealer hand as first, second, and third playing cards, rolling a die having indicia provided thereon representing outcomes of either the first, second, or third playing cards, and selecting the first, second, or third playing card in the secondary dealer hand in accordance with the outcome of the roll of the die.

15 12. The method defined in Claim 8 wherein said step (j) is performed by (1) resolving the contract wager and the additional wager in favor of the player when the point total of the primary dealer hand is less than the point total of the player hand, (2) resolving the contract wager and the additional wager in favor of the dealer when the point total of the primary dealer hand is greater than the point total of the player hand, and (3) resolving the contract wager and the additional wager as a tie when the point total of the primary dealer hand is equal to the point total of the player hand,

25 13. The method defined in Claim 8 wherein said step (k) is performed by comparing the point total of the player hand with a predetermined standard of reference.

14. The method defined in Claim 13 wherein said step (k) is performed by comparing the point total of the player hand with a predetermined standard of reference.

5 15. The method defined in Claim 13 wherein said step (k) is performed by comparing the point total of the player hand with a bonus pay table that correlates predetermined point totals of the player hand with predetermined pay-out odds.

10 16. The method defined in Claim 8 wherein said step (c) is performed by placing a jackpot wager in lieu of the bonus wager, and wherein said step (k) is performed resolving the jackpot wager by determining whether the point total in the players hand is a qualifying jackpot hand.

15 17. The method defined in Claim 8 wherein said step (c) is performed by placing a jackpot wager in addition to the bonus wager, and wherein said step (k) is performed resolving the jackpot wager by determining whether the point total in the players hand is a qualifying jackpot hand.